TC 1809

Philippine Solidarity for East Timor and Indonesia (Phil-SETI)

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Statement to the Conference on European Responsibility for East Timor

We, the participants from the Philippines, representing the Philippine Solidarity for East Timor and Indonesia (Phil-SETI), a nationwide association of 70 peoples' organizations (POs), non-government organizations (NGOs) and individuals,

Elevating further the gains of the Asia-Pacific Conference on East Timor (APCET) in bringing back East Timor to world attention and putting it back on the map of Asia-Pacific,

Sharing both the common history of centuries-long Iberian colonialism and the strong determination and unwavering commitment to struggle against oppression and exploitation,

Concerned with the Indonesianization of East Timor and the obliteration of its people and culture,

Equally concerned with and alarmed by the continued perpetration of violence against East Timorese women and the silenece surrounding their situation,

Strongly add our voice in urging the governments of Europe, in particular the Portuguese and German governments, to persist in taking an active role in bringing to the peace negotiating table the Suharto government and the CNRM (National Council for Maubere Resistance) with Xanana Gusmao and other East Timorese democratic groups,

Demand a full stop to all European official and bilateral aid to the Suharto government and instead apportion more funds to NGOs and POs working for the just resolution of the East Timor question and the broad democratic movement in Indonesia,

Condemn the continued arms flow between Europe and Indonesia and urge the European governments to put a stop to all official and private arms deal with the Indonesian government,

Call on the European Union, especially Germany, its current chair, to take a more active presence in the Asia Pacific region, not only for trade and commercial purposes, but more importantly, in order to contribute constructively and positively to the resolution of the East Timor issue and other similar concerns in Irian Jaya, Kanaky, Burma, Sri Lanka and the Philippines,

We serve this statement to remind Europe of its responsibility to East Timor and never to allow the Suharto government to treat the East Timor issue as purely an internal issue.

For the Philippine Solidarity for East Timor and Indonesia (Phil-SETI)

Renato Constantino, Jr. _____

Augusto Miclat, Jr. _____

Eupemio Cabardo _____

Efren Moncupa _____

Eleanor Conda _____

Ellene A. Sana _____

Iserlohn, Germany 02 October 1994